(d) if not, whether Government propose to introduce such a code to infuse greater accountaoility and thorough implementation ot crisis relief actions?

THE MJNISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA). (a) Yes Sir; through periodical monitoring teams and audit of accounts by A. Gs.

(b) Since the administration of relief in the wake of natural calamities is essentially the State Government's concern, this information is not collected from the States.

(c) Since it is essentially a matter concerning State administration, State Codes govern these aspects.

(d) No such proposal is before the Government at present.

Exploration for Mineral Resources

766. SHRIMATI SUJDHA VIJAY JOSHI; Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the plans drawn upto explore the seabed along the Indian coast for mineral resources; and

<b) what progress has been made so fa_r in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) Geological Survey of India had drawn up detailed programmes of Marine survey operations for the Field Season 1986-87 for;

(1) Resource evaluation of placer deposits along the Eastern and Western Continental Shelf (in collaboration with the Atomic Minerals Division).

(2) Geochemical Survey for Hydrocarbon seepages in the sediments along the Western Continental slow (in collaboration with the Oil and Natural Gas Commission).

(3) Search for volcanogenic mineral concentrations in the Andaman sea and

(4) Search for calcareous sands within territorial waters.

(b) A_s a result of the survey and exploration carried out by the Geological Survey of India and the National Institute of Oceanography a number of areas could be delineated for detailed surveys for placer minerals like ilmenite, routile, silh-manite, garnet, zircon and monazite along the Eastern and Western Continental Shelf.

Damage to Khartf Crops due to Drought

767. SHRI SHANTT TYAGL Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of loss and damage to Kharif crops in the country due to drought, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to fight the drought and belp the peasentry and rural poor in this hour of natural calamity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) A statement showing loss of crops due to drought in the monsoon period of 1987 is enclosed. (See below)

(b) Ceilings of expenditure for providing agricultural input subsidy to the farmers have bren approved for the States. Steps have been taken for ensuring a minimum of 8—10 hours of supply of power for agricultural operations and for optimum utilisation of available water in the reservoirs for agiicuiturai and drinking water purposes. A special scheme for providing subsidy for raising fodder on 2. 25 lakh hectares in seven States and a scheme for distribution of 3-26 lakh kits for growing vegetables in drought affected States are being implemented.